

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-5 (canceled)

6. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 4,~~ A method of de-blurring a segment of an image, the method comprising:

selecting the segment;

identifying pixels of interest near a boundary of the segment;

calculating blur contributions for the pixels by determining a first color vector relating to the segment, a second color vector relating to at least one adjacent segment in proximity to the pixels, and a third color vector relating to the pixels, wherein the blur contributions are in a same direction as a first difference vector comprising the second color vector minus the first color vector and comprise projections of a second difference vector onto the first difference vector, and wherein the second difference vector comprises the third color vector minus the first color vector; and

subtracting the blur contributions from color vectors of the pixels to remove blurring from the segment.

7. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 4~~ claim 6, wherein ~~the blur contributions are proportional to a blur coefficient~~ the first color vector comprises a representative color of the segment, the second color vector comprises a color contribution of the at least one adjacent segment, and the third color vector comprises representative colors of the pixels.

8. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 7,~~ A method of de-blurring a segment of an image, the method comprising:

selecting the segment;

identifying pixels of interest near a boundary of the segment;

calculating blur contributions for the pixels by determining a first color vector relating to the segment, a second color vector relating to at least one adjacent segment in proximity to the pixels, and a third color vector relating to the pixels, wherein the blur

contributions are in a same direction as a first difference vector comprising the second color vector minus the first color vector and are proportional to a blur coefficient, wherein the blur coefficient comprises a first dot product between the second and first difference vectors divided by a second dot product between two first difference vectors; and
subtracting the blur contributions from color vectors of the pixels to remove blurring from the segment.

9. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 7~~ claim 8, wherein the blur coefficients are calculated by an image processing apparatus.

10. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 7~~ claim 8, wherein the blur coefficients are calculated by a video processing apparatus.

11. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 7~~ claim 8, wherein the blur coefficients are provided as segment field data relating to the segment.

12. (currently amended) A method of blurring a two-dimensional segment of an image, the method comprising:

selecting the two-dimensional segment;

identifying boundary pixels of interest in a boundary region near a boundary of the segment border between the two-dimensional segment and one or more adjacent two-dimensional segments;

determining ~~[[the]]~~ blur contributions for the pixels to the boundary pixels from the one or more adjacent two-dimensional segments; and

adding the blur contributions to color vectors of the boundary pixels to add blurring to the two-dimensional segment.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein calculating the blur contributions comprises:

determining a first color vector relating to the two-dimensional segment;

determining a second color vector relating to at least one adjacent two-dimensional segment in proximity to the boundary pixels; and

determining a measure of blurring relating to the boundary pixels.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the blur contributions are in a same direction as a first difference vector comprising the second color vector minus the first color vector.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the first color vector comprises a representative color of the two-dimensional segment, and the second color vector comprises a color contribution of the at least one adjacent segment.

16. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the measure of blurring comprises a blur coefficient.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the blur coefficients are calculated by ~~an image processing~~ a video encoder apparatus.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the blur coefficients are retrieved by a video decoder apparatus from segment field data relating to the two-dimensional segment.

19. (currently amended) An apparatus for determining blur contributions ~~of a segment~~ to a particular two-dimensional segment from adjacent two-dimensional segments of an image, the apparatus comprising:

means for selecting the particular two-dimensional segment;

means for identifying boundary pixels of interest in a boundary region near a ~~boundary of the segment~~ border between the particular two-dimensional and one or more adjacent two-dimensional segments; and

means for determining the blur contributions for the boundary pixels from the adjacent two-dimensional segments.

20. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising:
means for subtracting the blur contributions from color vectors of the boundary pixels to remove blurring from the particular two-dimensional segment.

21. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising:

means for adding the blur contributions to color vectors of the pixels to add
blurring to the segment calculating blur coefficients representing the blur contributions.